"D" Division – East District
Operational Plan/SMEAC

Emerson Border Crossing Protest

(Morris/Emerson Detachment)

Protected "A"

[APG]

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A. SITUATION

Background

Currently, there is an ongoing blockade of the Canada/USA border crossing at Emerson along Highway 75 in relation to the Public Health Orders. There have been ongoing protests across Canada in relation calling for the removal of all Public Health Order mandates, which has created a great deal of tension nation wide.

On February 9th, 2022 protestors established a demonstration that started off as a slow roll at the Port of Entry-Emerson Border Crossing. The slow roll eventually turned into a full blockade of the north and southbound lanes of the Canada/US Border crossing on Highway 75. On February 10, 2022 detachment members confirmed there is large farming equipment/implements blocking all lanes of traffic on the Canadian side of the border. There are approximately 6 farm tractors, 10 highway tractor-trailers, 25 passenger trucks with camper trailers, snowmobiles, and approximately 100 protestors. Police have identified Personal Info. (Lawyer based out of Winkler (Lawyer based out of Winkler - Personal Info.) as their contact person.

The demonstration has disrupted the movement of all vehicle traffic, with the exception of commercial vehicles hauling livestock. The RCMP has managed to facilitate the movement of all

emergency vehicles, CBSA employees, and commercial vehicles hauling livestock.

INTELLIGENCE

- The "D" Division Criminal Analytical Section has been engaged and are monitoring Social Media outlets for further blockades/protests that maybe planned;
- "D" Division Strategic Communications Unit is actively engaged;
- "D" Division Liaison Team is working to identify organizers and establish communication

B: MISSION OBJECTIVES

- Keep the peace, protect life and property;
- Uphold all Federal and Provincial Laws;
- Uphold the right to a peaceful demonstration while ensuring the safety of everyone involved.

C. EXECUTION OF PLAN

The RCMP will maintain an operationally prepared status and use a measured response consistent with the behavior and management of the demonstrators. The measured response will be in consultation with the District Commander, DEOC, or the designated CIC. The RCMP will maintain local dialog with event organizers in an attempt to gain information related to any changes in itinerary or possible support groups joining the blockade.

DLT

- Upon arrival, initiate dialogue with identified leaders;
- Advise organizers of potential civil and criminal liability of blocking traffic, safety of motorists and protestors is our main priority.
- During the initial discussions with protestors, encourage moving the protest off the roadway to an alternative site. Allowing them to continue the protest while ensuring public safety.
- DLT members are to be mindful of such variables as officer safety, safety of the public, potential for increased violence, and seriousness of the offence, however, enforcement of any nature should be the role of a uniformed police officer, and not of the DLT member.

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DETACHMENT:

- Ensure service delivery is maintained throughout the detachment area, as well as to the blockade/protest site;
- Ensure the District Commander is consulted in advance of any enforcement action, knowing any enforcement action is as measured, incremental and as non-confrontational as possible;
- Consider wearing Hi Visibility Vest for responding members for visibility and member safety;
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic all members will have the appropriate PPE available and use when interacting with clients as they see fit during these blockades/protests;
- Ensure all Watchguard equipment is activated.

COMPLAINTS/INVESTIGATION:

- Members will investigate any complaint as they normally would in the carriage of their duties, keeping in mind all applicable Federal and Provincial Statutes.
- Intelligence/evidence gathering should include but not be limited to the names of protesters Involved, as well as any license plates of vehicles in the area and photographs of any placards, and signs should be obtained.

ENFORCEMENT PUBLIC and OFFICER SAFETY IS PRIORITY

- Enforcement will need to be authorized by the District Commander, Criminal Operations Officer or delegate; Critical Incident Commander
- Consider all relevant circumstances to determine the level of police response to the blockade/protest and applicable offences under Canadian law;
- Factors to consider will include: public and police safety; size, attitude, and make-up of the crowd, as well as the consequences of taking action against violators versus inaction.
- Ensure any enforcement action is measured, incremental and as non-confrontational as possible;
- Where possible attempt to negotiate compliance before taking enforcement action;
- Try to document the scene (photograph or video) prior to enforcement plans if at all possible;
- Remember that all police actions are being recorded;

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- Avoid outside interference and follow the Command and Control structure as established.

IMMEDIATE ACTION PLAN:

Enforcement action may include the following:

1. District Commander
   - District response will be limited to immediate action to active or imminent threats when urgency dictates immediate response prior to arrival of support units.
2. Tactical Support Group, TSG operational plan attached.
3. Full CIC engagement.

Should enforcement action be required, the District Commander will ensure appropriate situational reports/briefings are provided to CROPS, and the Commanding Officer of "D" Division. A copy of the operational pan will be provided to the District Officer, CROPS, and the CIC.

Operational Tactical Plan:

Based on the continuum of enforcement options, DLT has engaged the designated spokesperson and the group itself and explained this gathering is an unlawful protest. Police have further explained the participants are subject to fines and charges under the Highway Traffic Act (HTA) and Criminal Code of Canada (CC). Enforcement has resulted in verbal warnings and the issuance of tickets or Provincial Offence Notices (PON) under the Highway Traffic Act. Despite law enforcement action and continuous dialogue with Personal Info. , a group of protestors remain at two locations situated at the junction of Provincial Trunk Highway (PTH) #75 and Provincial Road (PR) #243 known as L1. Part of the protest group occupies a second location at the on ramp to the information center on PTH #75 know as L2. Both locations are identified on the attached map – Appendix 'A'

The following tactical plan has been prepared for the management of protestors who refuse to voluntarily depart PTH #75 at the Emerson POE.

The following resources will be deployed in support of this operational plan (same is subject to change based on the accuracy of information obtained regarding the number of individuals on site):

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Previous Day

- RPAS will be engaged to conduct reconnaissance early afternoon and late evening to provide sit rep on site.
- Patrols and DLT will continue with regular duties and attempt to establish number of persons on site at end of day and observe composition of protest group.

Timings

0400 - Operational Briefing – 1560 Seel Avenue, Winnipeg, MB
0500 – Depart Seel Avenue – OC – Command Post staged at Emerson Detachment
0630 – Action on

Perimeter Checkpoints will be established at 0615 at the following locations:

Based on the current intelligence of convoys traveling from AB to Ottawa with suggestion they may support MB Protest at Emerson POE – strategic checkpoints could be established on PTH #75 and secondary highway in consultation with traffic and motor carrier enforcement asap – MED / District

- Check Point #1 - North Access - PR 421 and PTH #75 – 4 GD members
- Check Point #2 - West Access – PR 243 and PTH #75 – 2 GD members and 2 Containment resources
- Check Point #3 - 1 Mile north of L1 located @ Grid Road and PTH #75 – 4 Traffic members and 4 containment members (cover both north and south traffic on #75)
- South Access – POE
- Check Point #4 - East Access – PR 200 into Emerson, MB – 4 Traffic Resources

IBET

- 4 members will be utilized on snowmobile
- 2 members will be deployed to monitor neighboring POE's – Tolstoi and Gretna

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TSG Resources

- 16 TSG resources will be tasked to form a line across both North and South bound lanes of PTH #75 on the south side of the tractors on site @ L1.
    - TSG resources will park on the shoulder of PTH #75
- 8 TSG resources will be tasked to form a line at the south end of L2. The Tactical truck and a ERT Vehicle will be used to block the highway on the south side.
    - TSG Resources will be equipped in Tac Order of Dress Level II – Combat pants and dark blue shirts, duty belt, gas mask and winter order of dress, touques and masks/balaclavas

Support Members

- 2 GD and 2 containment members will be available for support as required on site

ERT and PDS Resources

- ERT and PDS will deploy as necessary to support TSG resources and provide lethal overwatch at both L1 and L2
    - s.37 [redacted]
- EMRT will be in attendance with TSG and ERT resources

DLT Resources

- 6 DLT Resources – 3 DLT will be assigned at L1 and 3 DLT will be assigned at L2 to articulate the operational police response and explain there is an opportunity to leave now or be subject to the arrest process. Allow for those who wish to leave to do so – facilitate egress route from L1 or L2 (This may take a little time).

Arrest Teams

- Lawful authorities will be established in communication with Senior Crown Prosecutor Mr. Peter Edgett / consideration of enforcement of an injunction or other applicable legislation - Insp. Kirk Badger or his designate

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- For those who remain on site, arresting officers will approach from L1 and make arrests, take suspects into custody and transport suspects via their police vehicles to the Emerson Detachment, POE CBSA Emerson until cells are max occupancy and then onto Morris Detachment to lodge prisoners at that location. CLU transport vehicle will also be on site to facilitate prisoner transport to Morris. St. Pierre and Steinbach can be considered as alternate locations if necessary.
- An arrest T/L will be assigned to L1 and L2 and will brief with arrest teams in advance regarding applicable lawful authorities and legislation. An arrest T/L will direct operations on site. Arrest teams will consist of the following:
    - AT1 - MED CREST – 2 members
    - AT2 - MWD CREST – 2 members
    - AT3 – MWD Crest / MED Crest – 2 members
    - AT4 – 2 GD Members
- Arrest teams / CLU will park in close proximity to the TSG lines on PTH #75 to facilitate transport of prisoners.
- 3 Portage GIS (MWD) and 2 GD resources will be posted at the Emerson Detachment, POE CBSA Emerson and Morris detachments to facilitate lodging and access to counsel. These members will be responsible to arrange guards upon lodging.
- German speaking members will be available with DLT and then arresting members to facilitate communication as necessary:
    - L1 - Cst. Tina Perkins – MCS / Cst. Ducik
    - L2 – Cst. Jarin Long

Support Services

- 2 FIS members to provide running video recording of the scene, 1 Evidence Gathering TSG member
- 2 EDU members
- RPAS
- CNT – Negotiator – Command Centre

Removal of Assets

Attempts will be made for protestors to voluntarily depart with their assets. Should they decline,

the following contingencies are considered:

- Tractors / Farm Implements
  - Operate them off site – qualified members – identified by MED
  - Pull them off site – Dozers – MED / Detachment
- Semi / Highway Tractors
  - Qualified Class 1.0 Operators – HRMIS Search
    - Research with Civil Litigation
  - Towing / Wreckers will be required – MED / Det
- MIT will be consulted to coordinate snow clearing for affected highways – Det.
- Equipment will be seized under lawful authority and secured at a secure compound.

De-mobilization from area

- Perimeter checkpoints will remain in effect until such time as all resources have departed the area and PTH #75 is opened for general access.
- A regular patrol of the area will be coordinated with traffic services and motor carrier enforcement to enhance enforcement and visibility on all highways near POE's specifically PTH #75.
- Monitoring of POE's

Assignment of resources will be identified on an attached appendix.
Maps of the area will be identified for assigned checkpoints and site locations.

Summary of members involved:

CIC – 2 IC and Scribe
Traffic Services – 8 (Checkpoints)
GD - 13 (Arrest / Support / Checkpoint / Cell Block - CBSA)
Containment – 6 members (Checkpoints - MND / MWD / MED)
Arrest - MWD and MED CREST – 6 (plus one for Sgt. Binda dedicated to TSG)
MWD GIS – 3 (Cell Block – Emerson, Morris)
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PDS – 2

TSG – 24 – L1 (16 members - T/L Sgt. Binda) – L2 (8 members – T/L Sgt. Carr)

DLT – 6

RPAS – 2

FIS – 2

IBET – 6 (2 monitor POE's and 4 snowmobiles)

De-mobilization – 3 members/reservists to operate heavy equipment

Approximate number of members involved – 91 members

D. ADMINISTRATION AND EQUIPMENT

All members will utilize TEAM to claim any associated expenses in accordance with Treasury Board standards.
Any extra-duty pay and expenses incurred will be charged to the following:
Assist Freedom Support Convoy – 2022165377 / s.37

MEDICAL SUPPORT
If required, emergency medical support will utilize traditional emergency / ambulance response.

Morris General Hospital s.37 (Open 24 hrs)
215 Railway Ave
Morris, Manitoba

MEDIA LIAISON
All media inquiries will be directed to the Division Media Relations Office.

Consideration for media coverage from select location on site.

LOGISTICS
Logistics will be managed in consultation with tasks assigned by the Incident Commander, CIC and / or DEOC

TRANSPORTATION
Members will utilize police transport to and from their respective units to the identified staging site.
A QRT response will involve the appropriate use of police transport (or TSG can travel via one motor coach to limit PC's on site).

ACCOMMODATION PLAN

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Accommodations will be arranged as required – Same coordinated and arranged for by MED.

MEAL PLAN

On site food and portable toilets will be coordinated by MED for all participants. Meals will be incurred as per current Treasury Board guidelines.

SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT

COVID-19 – Masks have been procured for D Division and will be donned as directed.

E. COMMAND, CONTROL and COMMUNICATIONS

Inspector Kirk Badger is the main contact point for command and control in relation to this operational plan. This command structure could be subject to change depending on size or nature of protests and command being turned over to Critical Incident Command.

COMMAND:

- On site Commander: Sgt Jason Vrooman, Morris/Emerson Detachment Commander
- Incident Commander: District Operations Officer –Insp. Kirk Badger
- "D" Division Criminal Operations Officer – C/Sup Rob Hill

NAME (and Uniform Member Name)	AGENCY	CELLULAR # / PAGER #	ASSIGNMENT(S)
C/Supt Rob Hill	**RCMP**	s.37	**"D" Div CROPS Officer**
Supt. John Duff	**RCMP**		**District Commander**

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Insp. Kirk Badger	**RCMP**	s.37	**Incident Commander**
S/Sgt Darryl Robak	**RCMP**	s.37	**East District Advisory NCO**
Sgt. Jason Vrooman	**RCMP**	s.37	**On-site Command**
Supt. Rob Lasson	**RCMP**	s.37	**TSG O/ic**
Insp. Joe Telus	**RCMP**		**Traffic O/ic**
Sgt. Doug Lukaway **Cpl Rick Sinclair**	**RCMP**		**DLT Members**
DOCC	**RCMP**		**DOCC**
Renee Leclerc	**RCMP**		**DCAS- Division Criminal Analytical Section**
On Call Incident Commander	**RCMP**		**Planned Enforcement Action**

COMMAND POST:

- The local detachment office will serve as the command post unless circumstances dictate otherwise.

Communications/Equipment:

- All members will be equipped with a radio and will log in with DOCC through SAMM. The applicable DOCC Radio channel will be used for communication; members will transition to a tac channel after consultation with DOCC if needed;
- Watchguard will be activated in all PC's on scene;
- All on site members will have the appropriate COVID-19 related personal protective equipment prepared for use and available.

[APG]

Prepared by Inspector Kirk Badger in consultation with MED Management Team, and the on-site Commander.

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Sgt Jason Vrooman
Site Commander

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Insp. Kirk Badger
Incident Commander

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C/Supt. Rob Hill
Criminal Operations Officer

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